

Financial Assistance Review Committee (FARC)
Quarterly Meeting
Glen Allen, Virginia
November 13, 2008

Members Present:	Members Absent:	Administration Staff:	Staff/Other Guests:
Wayne Peer		Gary Brown	Jim Nogle
Billy Altman		Dennis Molnar	Karen Owens
Dan Butler		Amanda Davis	Mahesh Shetty
Brad Ferguson		Linwood Pulling	David Hoback
Pokey Harris			Dr. Allen Yee
Stuart Smith			Randy Abernathy

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
FARC Chairman Report:	Wayne Peer, FARC Chair, made a motion to approve the minutes from August 7, 2008.	Minutes approved
Grant Review Orientation:		
1) Grader CD	Grader CD and .pdf files have been submitted to committee members for all grant paperwork that was submitted by the grant deadline.	No further action required
2) Meeting CD	The meeting CD will be provided prior to the RSAF awards meeting on December 4 th , 2008.	No further action required
3) Awards Meeting	The December 2008 grant awards meeting will be held at the Richmond Marriott West in Glen Allen, Virginia on December 4-5, 2008. FARC will meet on Thursday, December 4 th at 9:00 AM. We will meet with the Regional Councils at 10:00 AM, the OEMS Program Reps at 11:00 AM and OEMS staff from 1:00 PM until 3:00 PM. FARC will reconvene at 3:00 PM to discuss the comments from the Councils, Reps and OEMS staff. On Friday, December 5 th , public comment will begin at 8:45 AM and the awards ceremony will begin at 9:00 AM.	No further action required
Committee Requests:		
1) Transportation Committee	Amanda Davis, Grants Manager, met with the Transportation Committee on October 20, 2008 at the Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads (VAVRS) to provide assistance for requested ambulances for this cycle. The Transportation Committee reviewed ambulance requests, including, the agency vehicle mileage, number of calls and the agency service area. There was approximately \$3 million dollars requested for ambulances during this grant cycle.	No further action is required

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
a) State Amb. Contract b) Consumer Price Index 2) Comm. Committee: Grant Compendium: a) OCP b) VCIPS	<p>The state ambulance contract has expired and OEMS does not anticipate having one in time for the current grant cycle or the March 15, 2009 grant cycle. The pricing for the ambulance requests will be averaged from the four bids received from ambulance vendors during June 2008 and computed using the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for average pricing.</p> <p>The Office of Commonwealth Preparedness Commonwealth Preparedness Working Group (CPWG) has developed a Grants Compendium that will be used as a resource for all public safety personnel and agencies. This Compendium will allow searching of public safety equipment, training and programs available for funding from state and federal resources. The Compendium will have a demo available in December and will have access to the information from all public safety agency websites.</p> <p>The EMS Advisory Board, Communications Committee has created a working committee to develop the Virginia Communications Index for Public Safety (VCIPS) to build upon the idea of the Grants Compendium from OCP, however the VCIPS would define the funding available for all communications funding available. The VCIPS will be searchable by specific communications equipment, program or training to include the agency providing the funding and the amount of funding available. The VCIPS will only provide information for state grant funding and will be accessible by all public safety agency websites.</p>	<p>The CPI was used to calculate the pricing for grant requests to include vehicle pricing used during the March 2008 grant cycle to include a 4.7% increase for vehicles and a 3.4% increase for all other EMS equipment. No further action is required.</p> <p>The Compendium demo will be available by December 2008 and will be demonstrated at the first FARC meeting in 2009.</p>
Medical Direction Committee: 1) Endorsement for EVMS	Dr. Barry Knapp has put in a grant for Eastern Virginia Medical School for 6 Portable Ultrasound machines. Dr. Knapp presented at the Medical Direction Committee and asked for MDC endorsement for his research project. However, the letter of support was not received by OEMS.	No further action is required
Grant Manager Report: 1) 2008 DHS Grant 2) 2009 DHS Grant 3) Grant Training	<p>The 2008 DHS grant will expand on the 2007 DHS grant submission for the Pre-Hospital Patient Care Reporting (PPCR) project to become web-based. The 2007 and 2008 DHS grant has provided \$2,782,000.00, this funding will be available to EMS agencies to purchase lap top computers for patient transport vehicles to include installation costs, training and OEMS software.</p> <p>OEMS will apply for the 2009 DHS State Homeland Security Grant (SHSG) program for a new project. The project will be determined during an Division Directors Meeting in December 2008.</p> <p>Grant training is available for any council or agency on request.</p>	<p>No further action is required</p> <p>No further action is required</p> <p>No further action is required</p>
Grants Unit: 1) Payments Processed	The grants unit has processed 2.2 million in payments from August 2008 through October 2008.	No further action is required

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
2) Quotes for all items:	We will be requiring quotes for all items requested beginning with the June - 2009 grant cycle. We realize that quotes are only good for 30-90 days but will give us more information regarding requests. OEMS pricing will not be used as a comparison to the agency pricing quote but will be used as a means to approximate the cost of the project.	The grants will be disqualified if no quote is submitted for items not on state contract. This will be posted on the OEMS Web-site.
12 - 2008 Grant Review: Outstanding Funds:	We have 1.1 million in requests for 100% funding. Amanda Davis, Grants Manager, provided information on outstanding funds for the last five years. Overall, EMS agencies have shown sporadic draw downs of funds with most agencies drawing down the awarded amount, however regional councils showed \$586,000.00 in outstanding funds that have not been drawn down since 2002 .	No further action is required No further action is required
Open Discussion	A motion was made by Brad Ferguson to disqualify any grant that isn't received by the grant deadline beginning with the June - 2009 grant cycle. Billy Altman seconded the motion. FARC committee members will meet with the OEMS program reps Wednesday, December 3 rd to discuss regional areas of agency applications that were submitted.	All were in favor of this motion Wayne Peer and Stuart Smith will meet with Program Representatives on December 3 rd , 2008.
	David Hoback, Roanoke City Fire Chief, suggested that OEMS send out a questionnaire about power-lift stretchers and ask the agencies if they have these stretchers. Survey questions should include: Are they beneficial? Is your agency considering purchasing one? Why or why not? The number one injury to EMS providers is back injuries. Do these stretchers help prevent back injuries?	OEMS will work with the PIO and biostatistician in developing a survey, this information will be submitted via email or with the July 2009 award letters.
Meeting Adjourned	Meeting adjourned at 12:15 PM	No further action required